The Joy of French Piano Music

A graded repertory of keyboard masterpieces of three centuries from Couperin to Debussy. Selected and edited by Denes Agay.

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La Montagnarde

The Highlander

Jean Joseph Mouret
(1682–1738)

Menuet

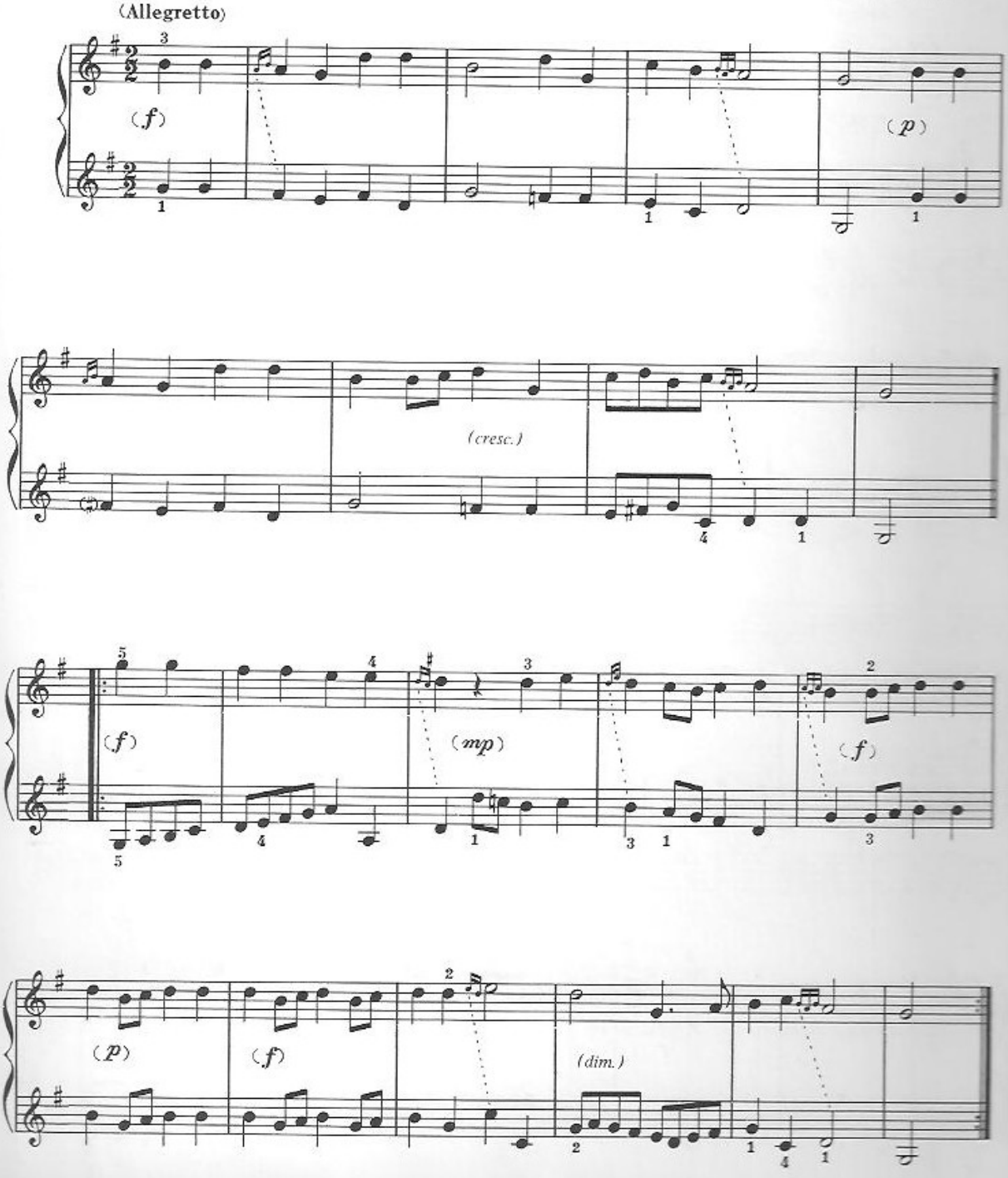
from *a Suite in A*

Charles Dieupart
(? –1740)

Andante moderato

Noel

Louis-Claude Daquin
(1694-1772)



Air Anglais

Michel Corrette
(1709-1795)

La Sultane

Rondeau

(Moderato)

Michel Corrette

Air

in the style of a Polonaise
from *Ordre No. 20*

François Couperin
(1668–1733)

Lively: The notes even and marked.

La Nanette

from Ordre *No. 1*

François Couperin

Gigue En Rondeau

Jean-Philippe Rameau
(1683-1764)

(f)
3-5
p
(crescendo)
f
mf
(dim.)
(p)
D.C. al Fine

Les Fifres*

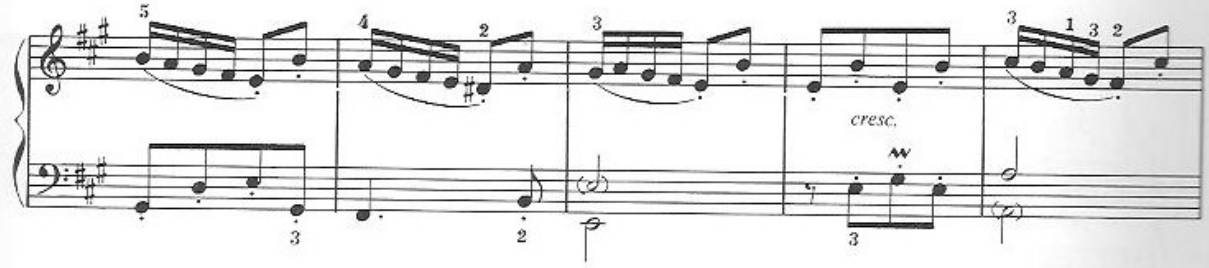
The Fifers

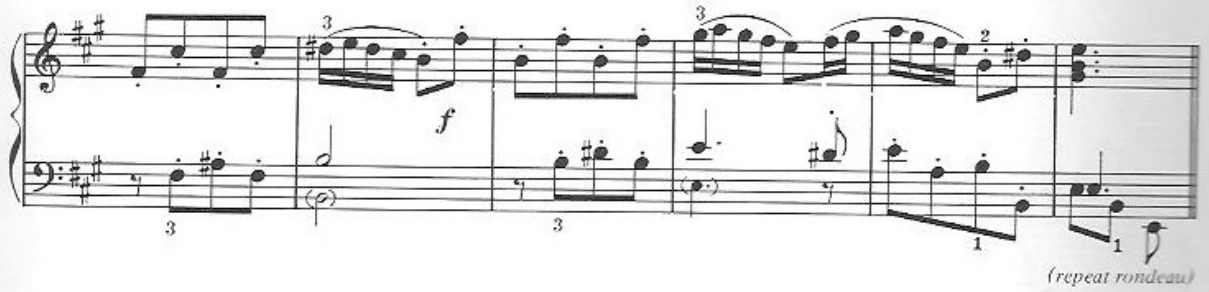
Rondeau

Jean François Dandrieu
(1682–1738)

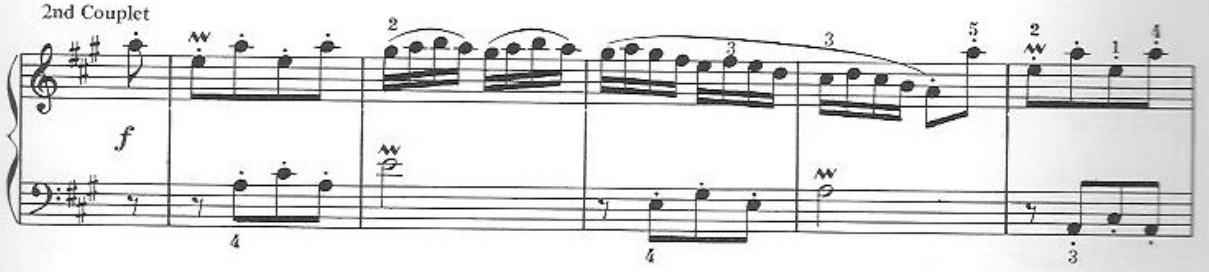
(Allegretto)

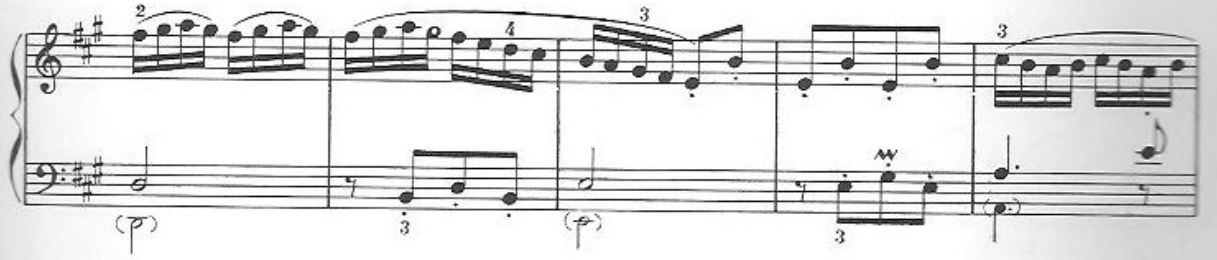
* Play Rondeau - 1st Couplet - Rondeau - 2nd Couplet - Rondeau

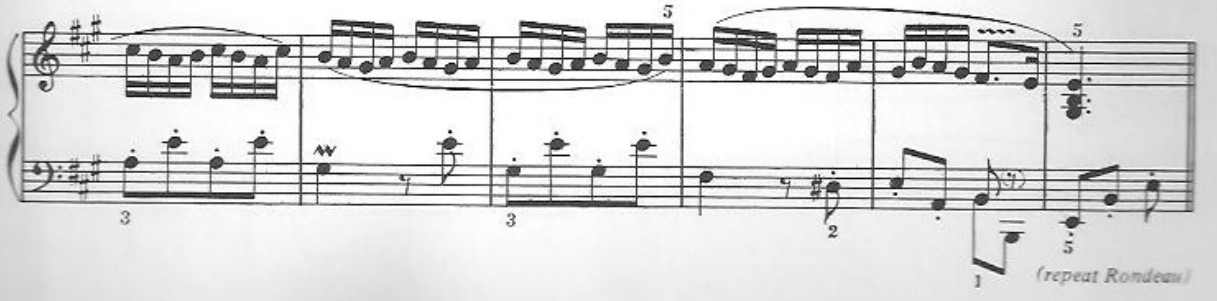




2nd Couplet







Tambourin

François Gossec
(1734–1829)

mf
f
mp
sf

Menuetto

from a *Sonata in A*

Etienne Nicolas Méhul
(1763–1817)

Allegro moderato

p
f
p dolce
f
pdolce
Fine
Minore
p

3
f
p
cresc.
f
f
sf
espr.
p
Menuetto D.C.

Spring waltz

Op. 37, No. 25

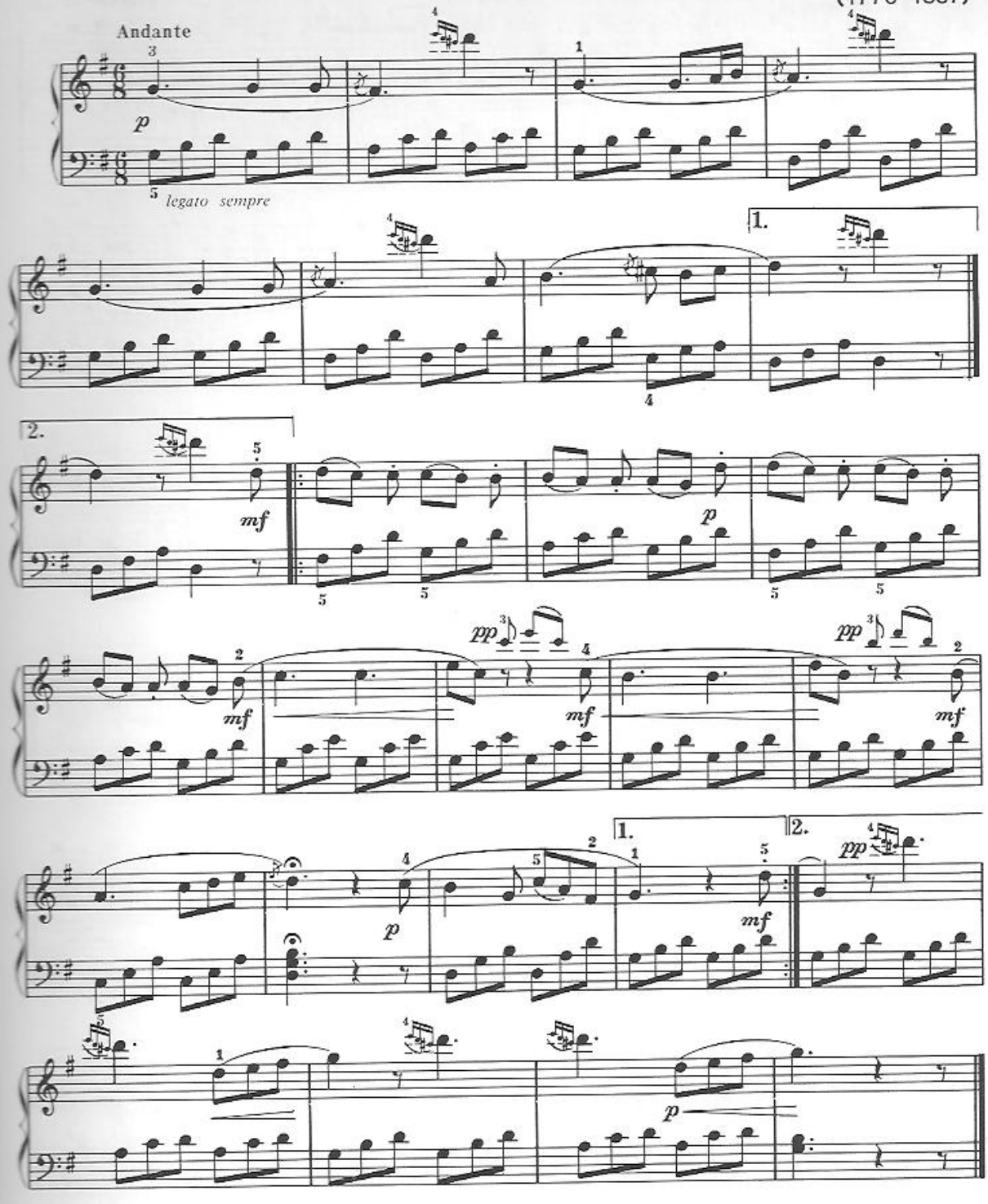
Henry Lemoine
(1786–1854)

mf
cresc. poco a poco
f
p
cresc. poco a poco
D.S. al Fine

Pastorale

from *Sonata 1*

Jean T. Latour
(1776–1837)



Serenade

Etude

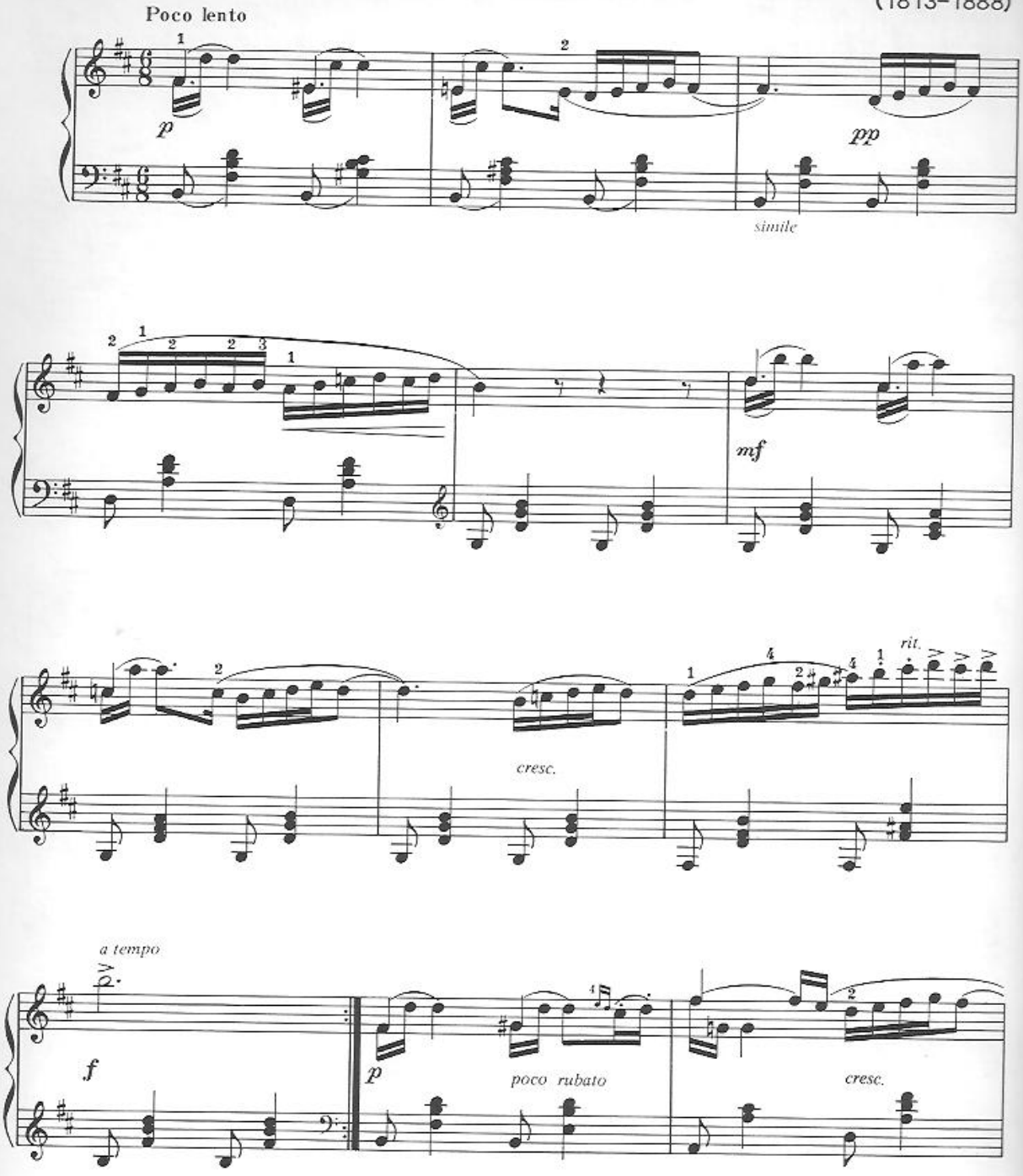
Stephen Heller
(1813–1888)

mf
f
mf
f
p
mf
p
sf
mf
rall.
a tempo
p
dolce
marcato
rit.
dolce
dim.
pp

Barcarolle

Op. 29, No. 5

Stephen Heller
(1813–1888)



rit.
a tempo
f
a tempo
rit.
p
rit.
a tempo
cresc.
f
p
rit.
pp

Musette

Charles Gounod
(1818–1893)

poco rall.
dim.
a tempo
pp
f
simile
mf
p
dim. sempre
molto rall.
pp
senza Ped.

Prelude

Op. 31, No. 23

Charles Valentin Alkan
(1813–1888)

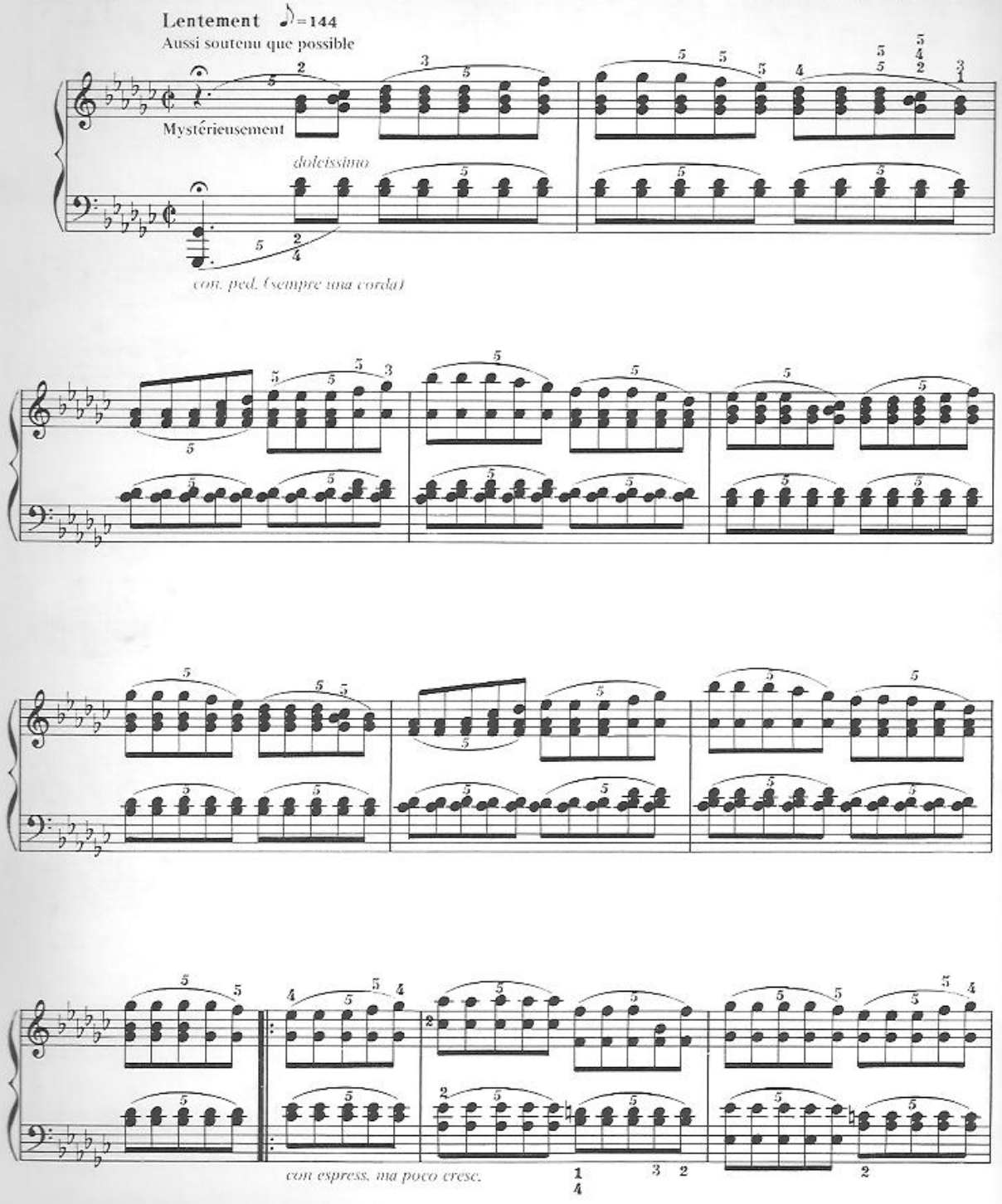
Tempo I
pp
simile
dim.
semplice
sempre
pp
poco rit.
smorz.
ppp

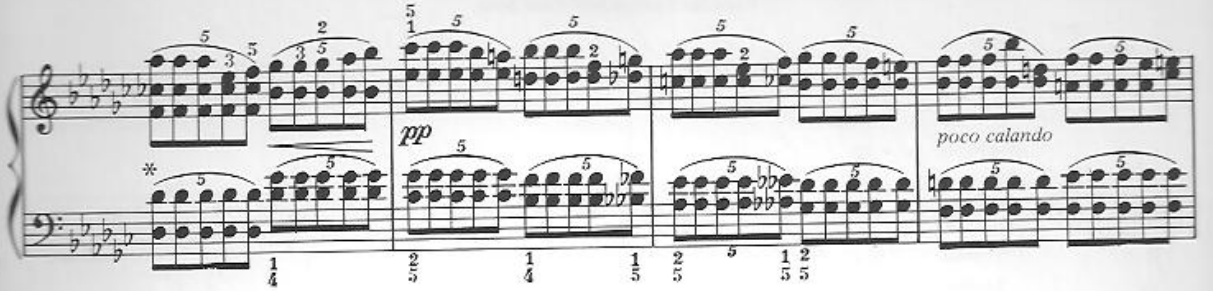
Prelude

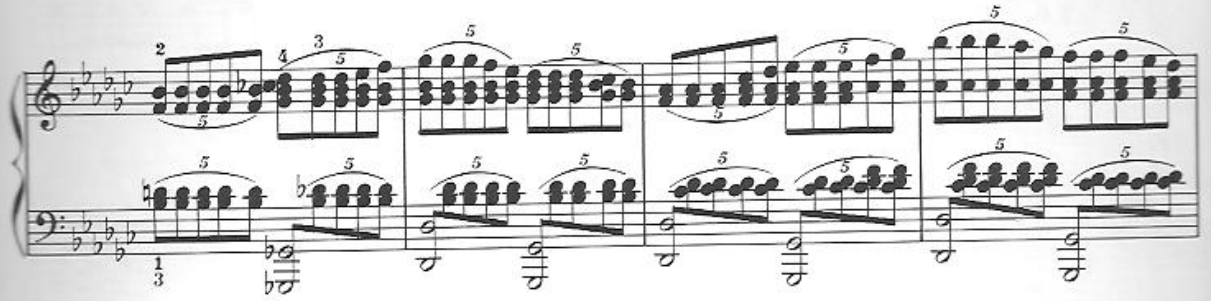
Op. 31, No. 13

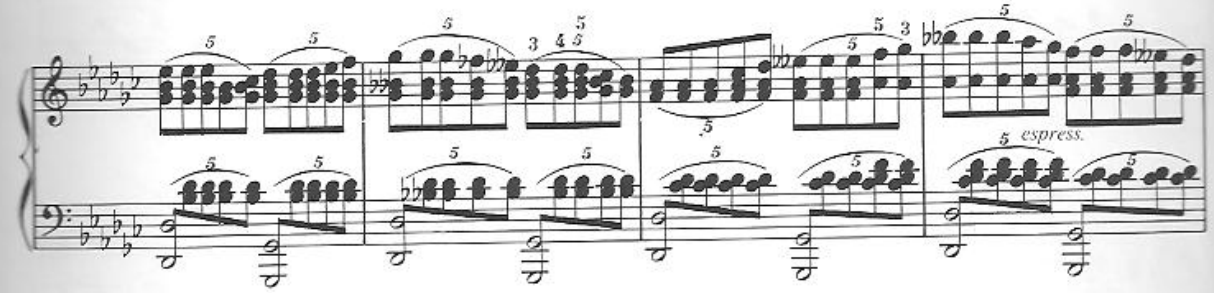
"Though I slumbered
my heart was awake."
(Song of Songs)

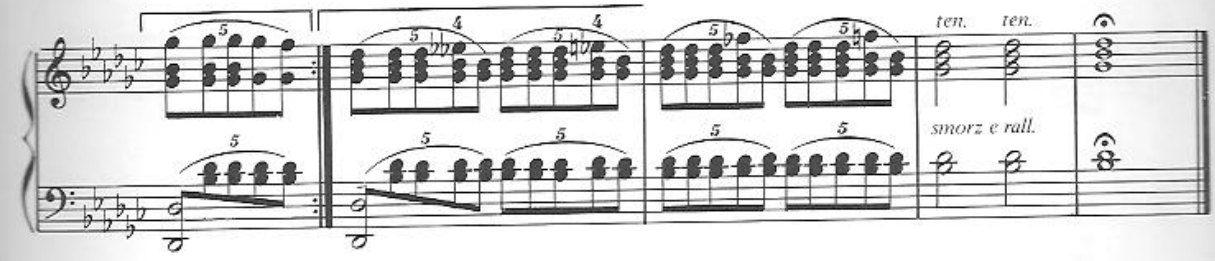
Charles Valentin Alkan











Ossia

Passepied

from *Six Dances in the old style.*

Léo Delibes
(1836–1891)

mf

mf
4
1
p
Ped. *
Ped. *
leggiero

2 1
p
3 1 2
dim.
pp

Spanish Dance

El Tripili

Édouard Lalo
(1823–1892)

p
fp

Romance Sans Paroles

Op. 17, No. 2

Gabriel Fauré
(1845–1924)

mf
cresc.
f
p
mf
cresc.
p
mf
f

mf
p
sempre legato
cresc.
5
4
f
sempre
5
f
dimin.
ritard.
dolciss.
a tempo
pp

* Players with small hands may omit upper notes of the octaves.

Papillons Noirs

Jules Massenet
(1842–1912)

f
f
p
p
sf espress.
sf
sf
sf espress.
mf
mf
5
sf
sf
cres.
sf
più f
p
dim.
cres.
più f
1
p
pp
3
8va
espress.
sf
sf
mf
3
sf

sf espress.
più f
mf
3
sf
più f
p
dim.
pp
5
4
5
4
espress.
poco
5
4
3
p
4
rall.
a tempo
dim.
pp
5
espress.
poco
5
rall.
p
dim.

a tempo
pp
dolce
f
p
sempre pp
ppp

Postlude

On Two French Carols

César Franck
(1822–1890)

rit.

Little Prelude

César Franck

Mazurka No. 1

Op. 21

Camille Saint-Saëns
(1835–1921)

marcato e cresc.
più
f
p dolce
pp

rit.
pesante

f
ff
p
pp

8va
pp
sotto voce.
pp
pp
rit.
a tempo
f

Melancolie

from *Pieces Pittoresques*

Emmanuel Chabrier
(1841–1894)

teneramente
sempre dolcissimo
pp
l.h.
ppp
riten.
ppp
a tempo
r.h.
poco cresc.
più marcato
l.h.
ppp
a tempo poco animando
r.h.
marcato
cresc.
cresc.
rit.
cresc.
allarando sempre
f legato
dim.
mf
pp
quasi lento e smorzando dim.
ppp

Piece Romantique

Op. 9, No. 1

Cecile Chaminade
(1857–1944)

dolce
r.h.
f
a tempo
rit.
p
cresc.
f
dim.
p
pp
f
p
rall.
Ped.
*
l.h.
r.h.
l.h.

Valsette

Rhené-Baton
(1879–1940)

Tempo di valse moderato

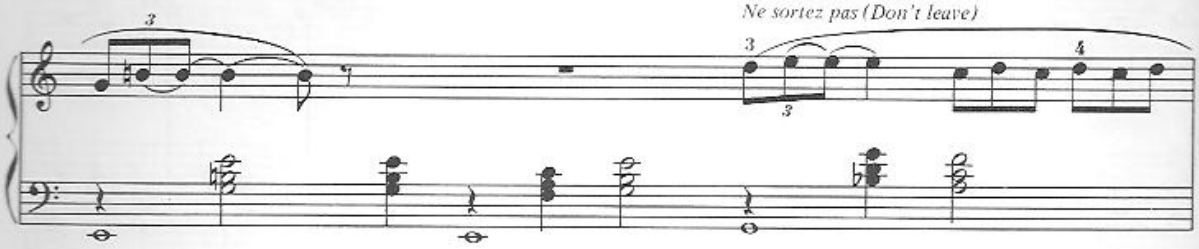
poco rit.
a tempo
p
mf
dim.
p
cresc.
f
f

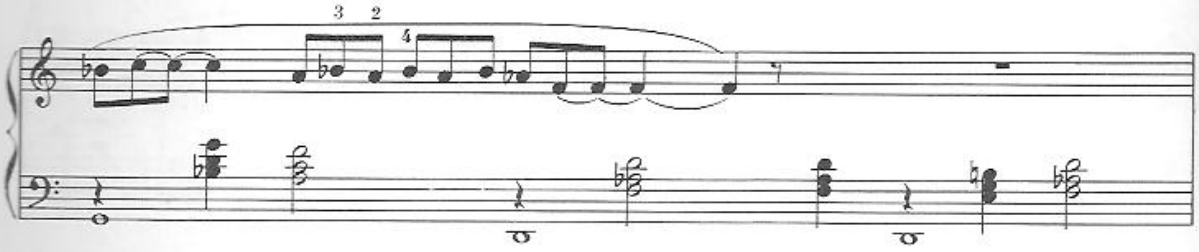
Gnossienne No. 2

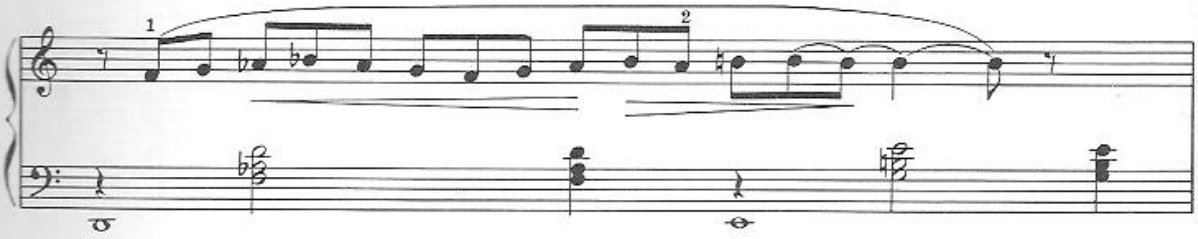
Erik Satie
(1866–1925)

Avec etonnement (With amazement)

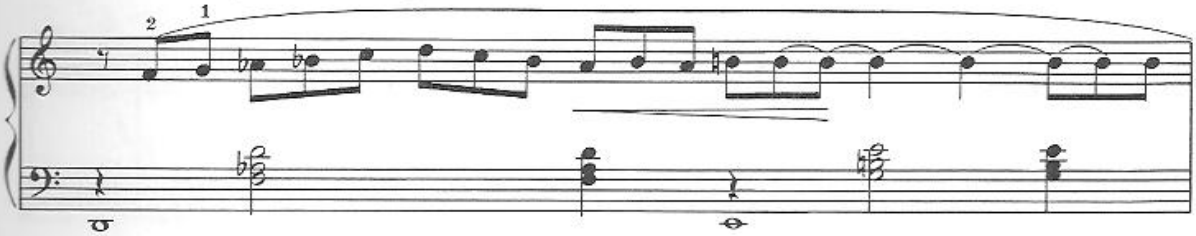
Ne sortez pas (Don't leave)







Dans une grande bonte (With great kindness)



Plus intimement (More intimately)
Avec une légère intimité (Lightly, with intimacy)
Sans orgueil (Don't be proud)
pp

Rêverie

Claude Debussy
(1862–1918)

(poco rit.)
(a tempo)
poco cresc.
f
p
f
p
dim.
pp espressivo

pp
sf
mf (ben cantando)
dim.
rit.
p
a tempo
più p
p
più p

pp
15
cresc.
mf
p
più p
r.h.
pp
a tempo (pp)
p dolce

meno p
p
più p
pp
rit. e perdendosi
ppp

Golliwog's Cake-walk

from *Children's Corner*

Allegro giusto

Claude Debussy

p
p
più p
f
ff
p
p
f
f
ff
Un peu moins vite
p
p
più p
pp
pp

pp
Cédez
avec une grande émotion
a tempo
p
pp
Cédez
a tempo
pp
a tempo
Cédez
mf
f
a tempo
Cédez
p
a tempo
Cédez
p

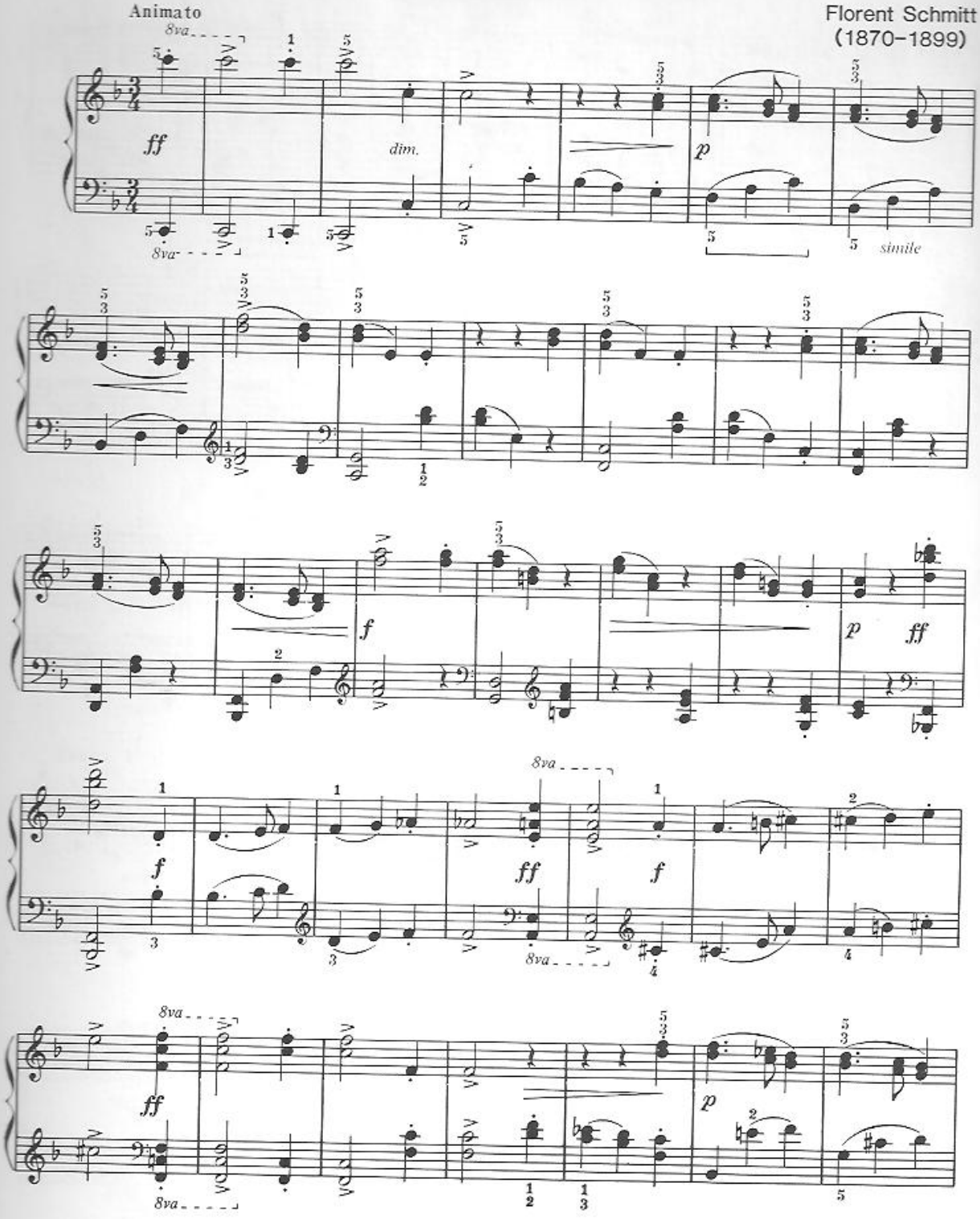
a tempo
pp
p
f
ff
f
dim.
p
p
Retenez
più
p
pp
pp
Toujours retenu
pp
Tempo I°
sff
A
p
p
molto
f
sff
A

p cre - scen - do
f ff
p
p
p
p
f ff
p
p
f
f ff
p
p
p
f
ff
ff

Valse Viennoise

Petit Musique, *Op. 32, No. 8*

Florent Schmitt
(1870–1899)



8va
cresc.
ff
dim.
mf
8va
(poco rit.)
(a tempo)
p
espressivo
cresc.
mf
cresc.
f
8va
8va
pp
cresc.
molto
ff
8va

Dedication

Op. 26, No. 1

Ernest Chausson
(1855–1899)

Calme

Pavane

Pour *Une Infante Défunte*

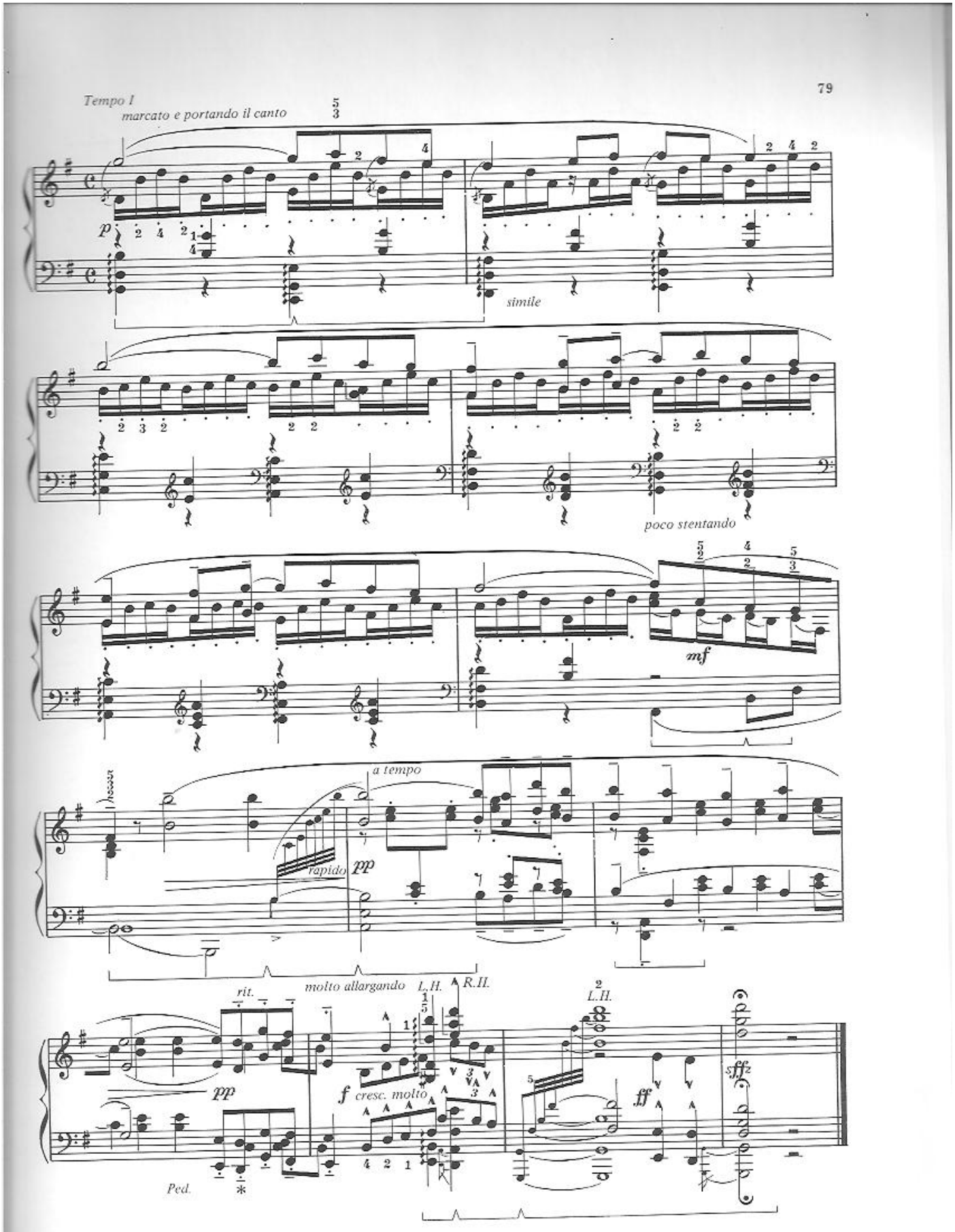
Maurice Ravel
(1875–1937)

Dolce, ma sempre sonoramente

Tempo I
come da lontano
pp
ben sostenuto
mf
pp
pp
poco piu lento
mf
f

a tempo
simile
poco stentando
mf
a tempo
rapido
p
Tempo I
un poco rit.
Largo
L.H.
R.H.
L.H.
pp
ff
pp
subato subito dolcissimo e ben legato
pp

sfz
ff
Grave assai
(Tempo I)
pp
R.H.
L.H.
p
Grave assai


Tempo I
marcato e portando il canto
simile
poco stentando
mf
a tempo
rapido
pp
molto allargando
L.H.
R.H.
rit.
pp
f
cresc. molto
ff
sfffz
Ped.